THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION No.5693 of 2007

09.4.2007

Between:
Vatala Saraswathi, W/o.Sri Rama Murthy

... Petitioner

AND

The District Collector, West Godavari District at Eluru
And others

...Respondents

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE V.V.S.RAO

WRIT PETITION No.5693 of 2007

ORDER:

The petitioner is owner of agricultural land admeasuring Acs.1.80, Acs.1.84 and Acs.0.38 in R.S.Nos.561/2, 561/3 and 567/1 situated at Varathippa village of Mogalthur Mandal in West Godavari District. It is alleged that fourth respondent is indulging in illegal, unauthorized and unlawful activity of aqua culture by converting various extents of agricultural lands in Sy.Nos.243/2A, 243/2E, 243/2O, 244/2A, 244/2E, 260/2A, 260/2B, 260/2C and 260/2E, without obtaining permission under Coastal Regulation Zone, causing polluting to ground water and damaging the crops making the lands unfit for cultivation by seepage and percolation of saline water. Therefore, the petitioner is not able to carry on her agricultural operations. She approached the respondents, in vain. Therefore, she filed the instant writ petition seeking a direction to respondents 1 to 3 to take necessary action against fourth respondent.

A Division Bench of this Court in **Madireddy Padma Rambabu v District Forest Officer, Kakinada**[1] decided similar cases and directed the Revenue Authorities not to permit the conversion of agricultural land for the purpose of fish culture/prawn culture/shrimp culture, and also directed to remove all the illegally developed prawn culture tanks. Therefore, this writ petition is disposed of, directing the third respondent to inspect the area, conduct enquiry and take appropriate action against fourth respondent after issuing notice to him. It is made clear that if the fourth respondent has already approached the Aquaculture Authority, Chennai, or has already obtained permission for conversion of land as prawn culture tank from such Authority, the same shall have to be taken into consideration by

the third respondent. The enquiry may be completed and appropriate orders may be passed within a period of eight (8) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

The writ petition, with the above observations and directions, is accordingly disposed of. No costs.

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(**V.V.S.RAO, J**)

April 09, 2007.
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[1] 2002(1) ALD 728 (DB)